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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/023,131	12/17/2001	Erwin B. Bellers	US 010664	4774
24737	7590	06/18/2004	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS			HSIA, SHERRIE Y	
P.O. BOX 3001			ART UNIT	
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			PAPER NUMBER	
			2614	
			DATE MAILED: 06/18/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/023,131

Applicant(s)

BELLERS, ERWIN B.

Examiner

Sherrie Hsia

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2, 3.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamada (6618097).

As to claims 1, 6 and 11, Yamada discloses the claimed subject matter, the claimed identifying the edge transient in the video signal is met by the contour detecting circuit 700 (Figs. 7-9, column 9 line 13-column 10 line 31) and asymmetrically enhancing the edge transient of the video signal is met by the computing circuit 710 (Figs. 7-9, column 8 lines 44-46, column 10 lines 32-56).

As to claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13 and 15, the claimed detecting the edge center of the edge transient is met by Figs 8 and 9 and the center data G5 and the claimed selecting a side of the edge transient is met by Fig. 9 and the data G5 and G6 (column 10 lines 50-56).

As to claims 4, 9 and 14, the claimed adding the edge change signal to the video signal is met by the computing circuit 710 (Fig. 9, column 10 lines 33-36, column 3 lines 57-60).

As to claim 16, the claimed edge transient is met by the contour G3-G7 (Fig. 9), the claimed edge center is met by the data G5 (fig. 9), the claimed first edge side portion is met by the portion of G3 and G4 (fig. 9), the claimed second edge side portion is met by the portion of

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G5, G6 and G7 (Fig. 9) and the claimed one of the first and second edge side portions is steepened is met by the portion from G5-G7 (Fig. 9, column 10 lines 50-56).

As to claim 17, the claimed edge transient is met by the contour G3-G7 (Fig. 9), the claimed edge center is met by the data G5 (fig. 9), the claimed first edge side portion is met by the portion of G3 and G4 (fig. 9), the claimed second edge side portion is met by the portion of G5, G6 and G7 (Fig. 9) and the claimed one of the first and second edge side portions is steepened and the other one of the first and second side edge portions is steepened differently than the one of the first and second edge side portions is met by Fig. 9 (column 10 lines 50-56).

As to claim 18, the claimed edge transient is met by the contour G3-G7 (Fig. 9), the claimed edge center is met by the data G5 (fig. 9), the claimed first edge side portion is met by the portion of G3 and G4 (fig. 9), the claimed second edge side portion is met by the portion of G5, G6 and G7 (Fig. 9) and the claimed first and second edge side portions are asymmetrically steepened is met by Fig. 9 (column 10 lines 50-56).

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Correa (6181385) discloses a method for processing transitional regions in a picture signal.

Hong (5469225) discloses an apparatus and method for enhancing transient edge of video signal.

Oohashi (4918528) shows a contour correction device.

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Kobayashi (6677994) shows an image processing apparatus having first and second contour compensation signal generation unit.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sherrie Hsia whose telephone number is (703) 305-4738.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (703) 305-4795.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 308-HELP.



Sherrie Hsia
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2614

SH
June 14, 2004